

October 12, 1953

Dr. Avram Goldstein
Department of Pharmacology
Harvard Medical School
Boston 15, Mass.

Dear Goldstein:

Forgive me for being so tardy in reply to yours of the 20th July. Your letter has been sitting reproachfully in my file throughout the interrupted intervals I was on campus.

To tell the truth, I have very little to say about your interesting mutable strain. As I believe I may have written you, we ran already into some difficulty with its nutrition: the growth was very poor on our minimal medium. As you suggested, we may already have had an auxotrophic mutant.

If we may go any further into it, perhaps it would be simplest if you could furnish a fresh, single colony isolation of the mutable strain, capable of growing on minimal but throwing the dependent mutants. However, as your letter mentioned that you were returning to the problem, you may perhaps prefer to await the conclusion of your own experiments.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg